

### Remarks/Arguments

Claims 1 - 4, 7, 8, 15 - 17 and 20 have been canceled. New claims 21 to 39 have been added. Claims 5, 6, 9 - 14 and 18 - 19 have been withdrawn as a result of a restriction requirement. A two month extension of time accompanies this preliminary amendment.

Support for the newly added claims 21 to 39 may be found in the specification as originally filed. Specifically, support for new claims 21 to 32 may be found in original claims 1 to 4, on page 31 paragraph [0113], in section "Expression of Human RET 16 Protein" starting on page 43 and throughout the application as originally filed. No new matter has been added.

Support for new claims 33 and 34 may be found in original claims 7 and 8, in section "Human RET16 Polypeptide - Production, Detection, Isolation" starting on page 50 and throughout the application as originally filed. No new matter has been added.

Support for new claims 35 to 39 may be found in original claims 15 to 17, in Example 2 and throughout the application as originally filed. No new matter has been added.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment, to Account No. 19-3880 in the name of Bristol-Myers Squibb Company.

Respectfully submitted,

Bristol-Myers Squibb Company  
Patent Department  
P.O. Box 4000  
Princeton, NJ 08543-4000  
609-252-5170

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Nickki Parlet  
Agent for Applicants  
Reg. No. 44,996

Date: June 7, 2004